

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following new section before the first line of text on page 1:

- - Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present application claims the benefit of the filing dates of U. S. Patent Applications Serial Nos. 10/282,853, filed on October 28, 2002 (now abandoned), and 09/595,034, filed on June 16, 2000 (now abandoned). The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/282,853, which was a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/595,034. - -

Please replace the first two paragraphs of the Summary of the Invention on pages 1 and 2 of the application with the following rewritten paragraphs:

- - According to the invention there is provided an apparatus for applying a chemical to rodents. The apparatus includes an enclosure having at least one peripheral opening for allowing entrance of rodents into the enclosure. The enclosure includes at least one applicator in the form of a suspended flexible web arranged to contact rodents entering the ~~chamber~~ enclosure and having the chemical on the web.

For a better understanding of the present invention, together with other and further objects, reference is made to the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, and its scope will be pointed out in the appended ~~claim~~ claims. - -

Please replace the first two paragraphs of the Description of the Preferred Embodiment on pages 3 and 4 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

- - DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Figure 1, apparatus 10 of the present invention is shown in a fully opened condition. The apparatus includes a lower member 12 and an upper member 14 which ~~[[Are]]~~ are hinged together at 16 to form a boxlike enclosure that can be swung open and closed. Members 12 and 14 are preferably made of plastic, such as injection molded plastic. A suitable enclosure is

available from Bell Laboratories of Madison, Wisconsin and sold under the product name "Protecta Jr. Bait Station". The enclosure is 6" x 5 1/2" and 3" high. The enclosure has a durable hinge 16 connecting the upper member 14 and the lower member 12 and includes a screw lock to secure the enclosure in a closed condition so that children or larger animals are not able to open the enclosure and reach the contents thereof.

Lower member 12 includes ~~sidewalls~~ sidewall openings 28 which are visible in the side view of Figure 2 and which are arranged in an appropriate size to permit the entry of a rodent such as a mouse. Inside member 12 there is provided an interior wall 18 which separates the enclosure into an entry passageway having openings 28 and an inner bait chamber in which there is provided a bait 24. Bait 24 is preferably a solid bait mounted on a steel horizontal rod 22 which keeps the bait off any moisture on the floor of the enclosure. Interior wall 18 has an opening 20 by which a rodent may enter the inner bait chamber. The top cover member 14 is provided with three applicator mounting slots ~~[[26a]]~~ 26A, 26B and 26C. Applicators 32 each comprise a flexible web which is suspended to extend within enclosure 10. Applicator 32 shown in Figure 3 is arranged to have a fabric web 36 pass through one of slots 26 and to have horizontal support member, comprising metal rod 34, engage the top 14 of enclosure 10 so that the fabric webs 36 of applicators 32 are suspended to hang into regions A, B and C respectively of enclosure 10 when cover 14 is in the closed position. Accordingly, when a rodent enters the chamber and moves through regions A, B or C, the flexible fabric web 36 of the applicator 32 will rub across the fur or skin of the rodent and apply a small amount of the chemical thereon to the skin or fur of the rodent. - -

Please replace the paragraph at lines 10-15 of page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - In the embodiment shown in Figures 1 and 2 the applicators are arranged in positions where a rodent is likely to pass when exploring the inside of the enclosure. In particular, the rodent will be entering by one of the openings 28 and be attracted to bait 24 in the inner bait chamber of the enclosure. In reaching the bait 24 the rodent is likely to pass through and

contact with either the applicator extending through slot 26A (shown as 32A in Figure 2) or the applicator extending through slot 26B (applicator not shown in Figure 2) [[32B]] in the passageway from opening 28 to opening 20 and thereafter also contact applicator 32C while passing through opening 20 and approaching bait 24. - -

Please replace the paragraph at lines 16-19 of page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - It will be understood by those familiar with the art that different size, shape and configuration of enclosures may be ~~[[use]]~~ used in accordance with the invention and that the particular location of applicators 32 in such enclosures may be at different locations according to the arrangement of passages in the enclosures. - -

Please replace the paragraph at lines 11-15 of page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - An alternate applicator 43 shown in Figure 5 includes a web 46 of similar material having vertical slits 47 forming flexible strips which hang into a passageway through which a rodent may pass in the manner of a beaded curtain. The resulting strips of the web 46 likewise rub against the back of a passing rodent. Applicator 43 is suspended from ~~supported~~ support 44 which is in a loop formed by seam 48. - -

Please replace the first paragraph on page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Applicator 90 shown in Figure 14 includes web ~~[[94]]~~ 92 with perpendicular portion 94 and adhesive strip 96. Cutouts 98, preferably triangular in shape, invite contacting passage by a rodent. The base opening of cutouts 98 along the lower edge of web 92 are arranged to be narrower than the width of a rodent. - -

Please replace the Abstract on page 10 of the application with the following rewritten Abstract: